

A or An Game

We use 'a' before a word that starts with a **consonant**. (Consonants are all the other letters which are not vowels.) E.g. a cat, a banana.

We use 'an' before a word that starts with a **vowel** sound. (Vowels are a, e, i, o and u.) E.g. an umbrella, an ear.

How to play the game:

1. Cut out the word cards below.
2. Shuffle the cards and place them face down on the table.
3. Take it in turns to pick up a card.
4. When it is your turn, say the word with the correct indefinite article (a or an) in front of it.
5. Sort the words into two piles in front of you both, a pile for 'a' and a pile for 'an'.

Challenge Task

Choose one of the words and say it out loud in a sentence, using 'a' or 'an' correctly.

feather

deerskin

aurochs

cave

omen

ancestor

wolf

elder

duck

eyelid

hole

boar

ant

face

passageway

insect

berry

dandelion

leaf

feast

hill

opening

Describing

Part A

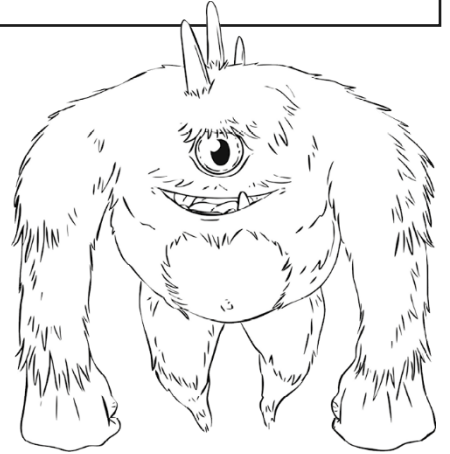
The word bank contains adjectives that were used in 'How to Skin a Bear'.

Adjectives are words that describe nouns.

Choose an adjective from the word bank that fits well in each of the following sentences.

slimy snuffling furry muddy rotten muscular juicy sturdy fierce heavy

E.g. The **fierce** monster growled and plodded towards me.



1. The _____ ground made it difficult to walk.
2. The _____ vegetables gave off an awful smell.
3. She bit into the _____ peach.
4. The _____ cat brushed past his owner's legs.
5. The _____ child put a scarf on before she went out to play in the cold.
6. The _____ statue had stood firmly in position for over a century.
7. My brother helped me move my _____ books into my room.
8. The _____ lion leapt from the ground onto a large rock with ease.

Now write a sentence including the following adjectives:

mossy

painful

sharp

half-eaten

Part B

Chapter 7 includes lots of description. Read pages 51-56 again, searching for and writing down words and phrases which describe or give you information about the following things:

the bear	
the river	

Challenge Task

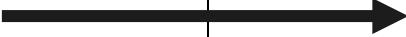
Write a description of a Stone Age animal of your choice such as a mammoth, a boar, a deer or a sabre-toothed cat.

Dictionary Skills

Part A

Understanding alphabetical order makes it easier to find words in a dictionary. Put these groups of words from 'How to Skin a Bear' into alphabetical order.

E.g.

reassure ruffle ritual rock river relief		reassure relief ritual river rock ruffle
---	---	---

1.

twitch tunic tribe tangled terrible twisted	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
--	-------------------------------------

2.

brother beckoning branches build boring blazing	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
--	-------------------------------------

3.

aurochs	_____
agreement	_____
anthill	_____
ancestors	_____
accidentally	_____
absolutely	_____

4.

purpose	_____
prance	_____
pelt	_____
pandemonium	_____
passage	_____
plunge	_____


Choose any four words from any of the boxes above and look them up in the dictionary. Write down the words and their meanings here.

Word	Meaning

Part B

Understanding alphabetical order makes it easier to find words in a dictionary. Put these groups of words from 'How to Skin a Bear' into alphabetical order.

E.g.

ruffle		reassure
reassure		relief
ritual		ritual
relief		ruffle

1.

chief	
ceremonies	
chuckling	
cluster	
crawling	
carcass	
confusion	
cunning	
clamber	
consolingly	
commotion	

Word	Meaning
carcass	
cunning	

2.

commotion	
survive	_____
swamped	_____
scrumptious	_____
sneakily	_____
starve	_____
structure	_____
sneer	_____
shadow	_____
slimy	_____
slushy	_____
swipe	_____
strangled	_____
stealthily	_____

Look up these words in a dictionary and write their definitions here.

Word	Meaning
scrumptious	
structure	
sneer	

Challenge Task

Write a list of six words which all start with the same letter in alphabetical order.

Fill In the Table

To complete this activity, you will need to have read Chapters 6, 7 and 8. Look in the text for the information needed to fill in this

	Chapter 6	Chapter 7	Chapter 8
What is the name of the chapter?			
Why do you think the chapter has this name?			
What do you think is the most important event of the chapter?			
Which settings are included in this chapter?			
Which words would you use to describe the different feelings that Bee has during this chapter?			

Challenge Task

Write your own question in the final row and answer it for each of the chapters included on the grid.

Reading between the Lines

Part A

The answers to the following questions can be found in Chapter 5 of 'How to Skin a Bear'.

1. Who usually makes the fire in Bee's tribe? Circle the correct answer. (p. 35)

Snore of the Rat

Sneeze of the Aurochs

Bent Tree

Knotted Mane

2. How does Bee know the legend of Human's First Fire? (p. 35)

3. What was the name of the first human to make fire? (p. 36)

4. In the days before the first fire was made, where did tribes get their fire from? (p. 36)

5. How did humans make fire for themselves for the first time? (p. 37)

6. Who are the members of Bee's own special tribe? (p. 38)

7. 'I wake up shaking. Why am I here, in this cave, alone? Did the Sky Spirits lead me here? Was the red sun an omen for me? A warning? I should never have complained about plucking feathers.' (p. 40) How do you think Bee is feeling during this part of the story? Explain your answer.

8. Why does Bee 'shudder all over'? (p. 40)

9. Do you think at first Dog thinks that the noises are coming from their own tribe? What makes you think this? (p. 40)

10. Why do you think that Bee doesn't go and talk to the people in the tribe that she sees?

Part B

The answers to the following questions can be found in Chapter 5 of 'How to Skin a Bear'.

1. Why does Bee feel that she and Snapping Stick are similar? (p. 36)

2. Find two phrases in the text on p. 36 which describe how Bee reacts when she thinks about her dad.

a) _____

b) _____

3. Find two things that the tribe in the story thought would happen to them if they had no fire. (p. 37)

a) _____

b) _____

4. In the fire song, what do you think is meant by the line: 'Now the fire needs to eat'? (p. 38)

5. How does Bee feel when the fire goes out? (p. 39)

6. Is it likely that the people from the other tribe can see Bee? Explain your answer. (p. 40-41)

7. Describe the homes of the people from the other tribe. Include as much detail as you can in your answer. (p. 41)

8. Why do you think Bee watches 'in horror' as the girl feeds grain to a sheep? (p. 42)

11. Why do you think that Bee doesn't go and talk to the people in the tribe that she sees?

12. Which word would you choose to sum up how Bee is feeling at the end of this chapter?
Explain your answer.

Challenge Task

Can you predict how what Bee saw in this chapter with the 'strange tribe' might affect her life in the future? Write down your ideas on what will happen later in the story.